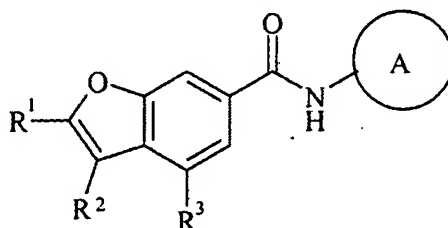


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof,



(I)

wherein:

Ring A is pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl; wherein said pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁴;

one of R¹ and R² is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl; wherein R¹ and R² are optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁵;

R³ is selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, carbocyclyl, ~~heterocyclyl, and~~ carbocycloxy and heterocycloxy; wherein R³ is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁶; ~~and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an NH moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C₁₋₄alkyl;~~

R⁴ is selected from halo, carboxy and C₁₋₄alkyl;

R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from halo, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, N,N-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, carbocyclyl, ~~heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy, heterocycloxy and carbocyclidenyl;~~ wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁷; ~~and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an NH moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C₁₋₄alkyl;~~

R⁷ is selected from halo, carboxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino and N-methyl-N-ethylamino.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The compound according to Claim 1 or a salt thereof, wherein Ring A is unsubstituted or is substituted by carboxy.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The compound according to Claim 2 or a salt thereof, wherein one of R^1 and R^2 is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The compound according Claim 1 or a salt thereof, wherein R^3 is selected from C_{1-4} alkoxy; wherein R^3 is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6 .

Claim 5 (previously presented): The compound according to Claim 1 or a salt thereof, wherein R^3 is selected from 2-fluorobenzyloxy, 5-methylisoxazol-3-ylmethoxy and 2-thien-3-ylethoxy.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A compound according to Claim 1 selected from:

2-methyl-4-isobutoxy-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-(2-fluorophenylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-isobutoxy-6-[*N*-(5-carboxythiazol-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-(5-methylisoxazol-3-ylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

4-(2-fluorophenylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

4-(5-methylisoxazol-3-ylmethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

2-methyl-4-(thien-2-ylethoxy)-6-[*N*-(5-carboxypyridin-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran; and

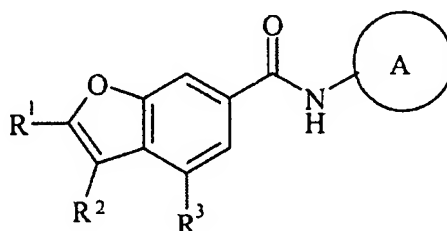
2-methyl-4-isobutoxy-6-[*N*-(thiazol-2-yl)carbamoyl]benzofuran;

or a salt thereof.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~The~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, or a salt thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~The A~~ method of treating type 2 diabetes ~~a disease mediated through glucokinase~~, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6 or a salt thereof.

Claim 9 (currently amended and withdrawn): A method for preparing a compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof:



(I)

wherein:

Ring A is pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl; wherein said pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^4 ;

one of R^1 and R^2 is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl; wherein R^1 and R^2 are optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^5 ;

R^3 is selected from C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, carbocyclyl, ~~heterocyclyl and carbocyclyloxy and heterocyclyloxy~~; wherein R^3 is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R^6 ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an NH moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl;

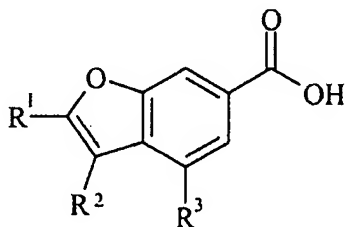
R^4 is selected from halo, carboxy and C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from halo, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)amino, N,N -(C_{1-4} alkyl)₂amino, carbocyclyl, ~~heterocyclyl, carbocyclyloxy, heterocyclyloxy and carbocyclylidenyl~~; wherein R^5 and R^6 are independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R^7 ; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an NH moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^7 is selected from halo, carboxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino and *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino;

wherein the method comprises:

Process 1): reacting an acid of formula (II):



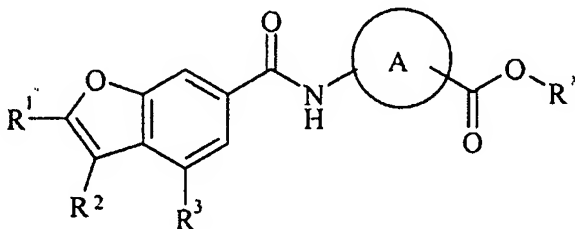
(II)

or an activated derivative thereof; with a compound of formula (III); or



(III)

Process 2) for compounds of formula (I) wherein R^4 is carboxy; deprotecting a compound of formula (III):

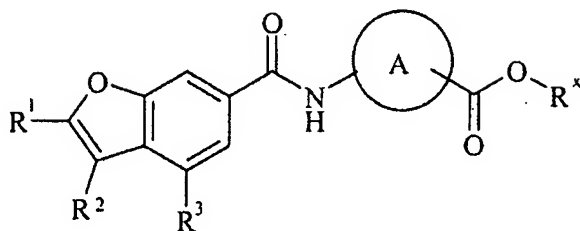


(III)

wherein R^x -OC(O) is an ester group and R^x is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl and benzyl; and optionally:

- i) converting a compound of the formula (I) into another compound of the formula (I);
- ii) removing any protecting groups; and/or
- iii) forming a salt thereof.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): A compound of formula (III):



(III)

wherein:

R^x-OC(O) is an ester group and **R^x** is selected from C₁₋₆ alkyl and benzyl;

Ring A is pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl; wherein said pyridin-2-yl or thiazol-2-yl is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁴;

one of **R¹** and **R²** is hydrogen and the other is hydrogen or C₁₋₄alkyl; wherein R¹ and R² are optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁵;

R³ is selected from C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy and heterocycloxy; wherein R³ is optionally substituted on carbon by one or more groups selected from R⁶; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C₁₋₄alkyl;

R⁴ is selected from halo, carboxy and C₁₋₄alkyl;

R⁵ and **R⁶** are independently selected from halo, C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy, *N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)amino, *N,N*-(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂amino, carbocyclyl, heterocyclyl, carbocycloxy, heterocycloxy and carbocyclidenyl; wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are independently optionally substituted on carbon by one or more R⁷; and wherein if said heterocyclyl contains an -NH- moiety that nitrogen is optionally substituted by C₁₋₄alkyl;

R⁷ is selected from halo, carboxy, methyl, ethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, methylamino, ethylamino, dimethylamino, diethylamino and *N*-methyl-*N*-ethylamino.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The method of claim 9, wherein **R^x** is selected from methyl and ethyl.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The compound of claim 10, wherein R^x is selected from methyl and ethyl.